

Application No. 09/896,224
Amendment dated March 1, 2004
Reply to Office Action dated November 20, 2003

Remarks/Arguments

The Examiner objected to the numbering of the claims and renumbered them as claims 3-14. Claims 3, 7, 8, and 12-14 were objected to on the basis of informalities. These matters have now been corrected.

Claims 4-6 and 9-11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. Sec. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. These matters have also been corrected.

The Examiner has indicated allowable subject matter in claims 1, 4-6 and 9-11, provided the dependent claims were rewritten to overcome the rejections and objections made concerning the claims. The Examiner indicated the acceptable manner in which these claims should be rewritten. The rewritten claims are acceptable to the applicants. The Applicants believe the Examiner meant to include claim 3 in the allowable subject matter as well, since the Examiner revised it along with the others.

Applicants believe the claims, as now amended, are now in allowable form. The Applicants respectfully request that the claims be passed to allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



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